the labour. But I want to point out one or two matters such as time of visit by officers and punishments; especially I must point out that the punishments contemplated in the Bill are very excessive. Therefore I feel it should be referred to a Select Committee.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: It will be referred to a select committee.

MR. M. L. JANARDHANAN PILLAI: I agree with the observations made by Mr. Pereira. I believe that very stringent provisions have been made to enable officers to examine the condition and the working of the factories in the State. In view of the announcement made just now that the Bill will be referred to a select committee, I do not want to make any speech now.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: In supporting the Bill I may state that the objections raised by Mr. Pereira and Mr. Janardhanan Pillai certainly cannot prevail because it is a Bill which is attempted for the welfare of the labour and the capitalists generally will be so powerful as to exert any influence in any manner on any people. In dealing with all these people I certainly think that restrictions of the sort suggested in the Bill are necessary and penalties suggested must be severe so that the capitalists may not go against the provisions of the law. With these few words, I support the Bill.

The Secretary read the short title of the Bill.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting the following gentlemen.

1. Deputy President.
2. Mr. J. E. A. Pereira
3. ,, K. K. Chellappan Pillai
4. ,, V. Madhavan
5. ,, T. P. Velayudhan Pillai
6. ,, P. K. Kunju
7. ,, Sulaiman Sait
8. ,, M. L. Janardhanan Pillai.

The question that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee was put and carried.

## THE TRAVANCORE VILLAGE PANCHAYAT ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I beg to introduce The Travancore Village Panchayat Act (Amendment) Bill and move that the Bill be read in the Assembly.

MR. S. NARAYANA AIYAR: I second it.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: Under Section 10 of the existing Village Panchayat Act a member of a Village Panchayat ceases to be a member on the termination of a period of three years. The election

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[Mr. N. Ramakrishna Pillai.]

takes place subsequent to that date and therefore usually there is an intervening period during which there will be no member in his place. The Bill is intended to rectify this defect in the existing Act and to make it possible for the member to continue till another member is elected in his place.

The Secretary read the short title of the Bill.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I move that standing order No. 34 be suspended and that the Bill be taken into consideration.

Standing order No. 34 was suspended.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I move that the Bill be passed.

MR. S. NARAYANA AIYAR: I second it.

The question that the Bill may be passed was put and carried.

## THE TRAVANCORE REGISTRATION ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I beg to introduce the Travancore Registration Act (Amendment) Bill and I move that the Bill be read in the Assembly.

MR. S. NARAYANA AIYAR: I second it.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: The Bill is intended to make an amendment in Section 12 of the Registration Act. Under Section 12 of the Registration Act, the Registering Officer is bound to refuse registration of a document unless it is in Malayalam or Tamil. The Amendment seeks to provide that if the Registrar understands the language in which the document is written, he can register the document. He is bound to refuse a document only if it is in a language which he does not understand. I may also mention that this is in conformity with the British Indian Act.

MR. C. S. LEKSHMANA AIYAR: I oppose the introduction of the Bill for this reason. What is sought by the amendment is that whatever may be the language in which a document is written, that document may be registered provided the Sub-Registrar understands that language. Under the existing law a document has to be accompanied by a Malayalam translation, if it is prepared in any other language. The production of the translation serves several purposes. These documents particularly those which are registered and copied in volumes I & II are documents of which copies may be taken. It may be that the Sub-Registrar understands Hindi and therefore he may register a document written in Hindi. If after some time anybody wants to know the contents of it he has to take a copy of it and get it translated. I think therefore that the Law as it stands is after all more acceptable than it would be as amended. What is needed at present is that a true translation in Malayalam should be produced whenever a document is brought for registration if written in a language not understood ordinarily by the people of Travancore.

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